

CLAIMS

1. A carrier vehicle of spores of at least one entomopathogenic microorganism on an adsorbent support selected among a granular form, a powder form and mixtures thereof, and of an attractant semiochemical component, characterized in that:

the natural or synthetic adsorbent support is a material selected from among silicates, silicoaluminates, phosphoaluminates, ion exchange resins and combinations of them;

the spores are adsorbed onto the mineral support and located on the surface in a way that is accessible to the attracted insects;

and the semiochemical component is selected from among semiochemical substances specifically attractant of the species of insect it is wished to combat and is adsorbed on an adsorbent support.

2. A vehicle according to claim 1, characterized in that it furthermore comprises an adherent intermediate base for retaining the adsorbent powder and preventing its dispersion. This base can be a viscous polymer such as an elastomer insoluble in water or an aqueous gel with a moistening agent. This adsorbent intermediate base is applied on plates, spheres or other solid shapes for being located in the field.

3. A carrier vehicle of spores according to claim 1, characterized in that the spores are suspended in an oil component selected among mineral oils, vegetable oils, animal oils and mixtures of them, and adsorbed on the adsorbent support.

4. A vehicle according to claim 2, characterized in that the attractant semiochemical component is adsorbed

on the adsorbent support and said support, coated with the spores, is spread on the intermediate adherent.

5. A vehicle according to claim 2, characterized in that:

the semiochemical component is adsorbed on a natural or synthetic support selected among a granular form, a powder form and mixtures thereof, and selected from among silicates, silicoaluminates, phosphoaluminates, ion exchange resins and combinations of them, and this support can be the same as or different from the spore carrier.

6. A vehicle according to claim 3, characterized in that the spores are suspended in an oil component selected among mineral oils, vegetable oils, animal oils and mixtures of them.

7. A vehicle according to claim 5, characterized in that:

the semiochemical component is adsorbed on the adsorbent support, the same as or different from the spore carrier.

the adsorbent support together with the semiochemical is compacted in pills, which are surrounded by the carrier support for spores. The two adsorbent supports can be the same or different.

8. A vehicle according to claim 3, characterized in that: the spores are suspended in an oil component selected among mineral oils, vegetable oils, animal oils and mixtures of them.

9. A vehicle according to claim 2, characterized in that: the intermediate adhesive layer is selected among organic polymeric adhesives or is an aqueous gel of

natural or synthetic polymers.

10. A vehicle according to claim 9, characterized in that: the adherent layer is formed from organic adhesives or from gels, the gelling substance of which is selected among natural or synthetic hydrophilic polymers such as carboxymethylcellulose, crystalline cellulose, carboxymethylchitosane, methylcellulose, methylbutylcellulose, quitosanes, polymers of algae and plants and combinations thereof.

11. A vehicle according to claim 2, characterized in that the moistening agent consists of one or more polyalcohols.

12. A vehicle according to claim 11, characterized in that the moistening agent is selected among sorbitol, glycerol, manitol, xylitol and combinations thereof.

13. A vehicle according to claim 2, characterized in that the moistening agent is present in a quantity between 20 % and 95 % of the dry weight of the gelling agent.

14. A vehicle according to claim 1, characterized in that the semiochemical component comprises at least one pheromone or a synthetic or natural attractant, specific for the species is it wished to combat.

15. A vehicle according to claim 1, characterized in that the semiochemical component is present in the adsorbent support in a quantity between 0.005 and 1 g per gram.

16. A vehicle according to claim 5, characterized in that the semiochemical component is present in the second

adsorbent support in a quantity between 0.0005 and 1 g per gram of said second adsorbent support.

17. A vehicle according to claim 1, characterized in that the entomopathogenic microorganism can be any fungus or bacterium capable of contaminating the insects.

18. A vehicle according to claim 1, characterized in that the spores of the entomopathogenic microorganism are present in a quantity between 1×10^3 - 1×10^{12} spores per gram of adsorbent support.

19. A vehicle according to claim 3, characterized in that the oil component is present in a quantity between 30-75 % per gram of adsorbent support.

20. A composition for combating insects which contains a vehicle as defined according to claim 1.

21. A device for combating insects, characterized in that it comprises a receptacle containing, in a form accessible for the insects, a vehicle defined according to claim 1.

22. A device for combating insects, characterized in that it comprises a receptacle containing, in a form accessible for the insects, a composition defined in claim 20.

23. A method for combating insects by means of infection of the insects with spores of microorganisms, characterized in that an efficacious quantity of spores is made available to the insects, according to any of claims 1.